

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

October 6, 2014

SHEILA “Skip” NOWELL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sheila “Skip” Nowell Leadership Academy was held on

October 6, 2014 at Sheila “Skip” Nowell Leadership Academy, 43 Hawes Street, Central Falls, RI. Co-Chair Deborah Perry welcomed everyone, declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Deborah Perry, Michele Cinquegrano, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Beata Nelken, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, William Walter, Nancy Wilson and Jodi Timpani.

Absent: Misty Delgado, Susan Gershkoff, Gigi Dibello, Joseph DiMartino, Clarice LaVerne Thompson, and Patricia Flanagan.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Stephanie Gonzalez made a motion to accept the agenda.

**On a motion duly made by Stephanie Gonzalez and seconded by Suzanne Magaziner
it was**

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy accept the agenda for the meeting of October 6, 2014.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the

negative as follows:

YEAS: Michele Cinquegrano, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, William Walter, and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

2. OPEN FORUM

Co-Chair Perry explained to the audience that the Board of Directors will allow for public comment, limited to two minutes per person and beginning with comments pertaining to approval items on tonight's meeting agenda before accepting comments on other topics.

Members of the Board of Directors were asked to give their full attention to speakers but were reminded that they could not engage speakers in conversation or answer questions.

If concerns or questions were raised from Open Forum topics, the Board could direct staff to follow up.

3. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

a. Deborah Perry reported that Rhode Island Foundation would host a series of Charter School Board of Directors Workshops. The next one is Wednesday, October 29, 2014 and will address board recruitment.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**On a motion duly made by Michelle Cinquegrano and seconded by Deirdre Denning Norton
it was**

**VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy
accept Minutes of the
Meeting for September 3, 2014.**

**Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the
negative.**

**YEAS: Michele Cinquegrano, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne
Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, William Walter, and
Nancy Wilson.**

NAYS: 0

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill Walter reported that the budget year to date was showing a surplus. He explained that not every student is using a bus pass as reason for spending surplus in this area and that faculty and staff that were not hired until August effected this respective line item as well.

On a motion duly made by Nancy Wilson and seconded by Deirdre

Denning Norton

it was

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy accept the Treasurer's report August 2014.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Michele Cinquegrano, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, William Walter, and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Deirdre Denning Norton reported that the Personnel Committee was in the process of reviewing an employee handbook to ensure fairness in following workplace policy and procedures. Once this draft is complete, the committee will submit to the board for review and final acceptance.

7. ACTION ITEMS

a. Jodi Timpani presented a motion to approve recommendation to hire a technology consultant. Dave Wilder volunteered to draft and support the technology plan for Nowell Leadership Academy prior to school opening and during year one of start-up. As the technology department needs additional supervision and as the school drafts a technology plan with end of lease pending 2015 SY, there is need for increased duties and support. There was an additional request for this consultant to manage the security and firewall safety concerning all student information.

On a motion duly made by William Walter and seconded by Misty Delgado it was

VOTED: That Nowell Leadership Academy hire a Technology Consultant

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative and two members recused as follows:

YEAS: Michele Cinquegrano, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, William Walter, and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

RECUSED: Deborah Perry and Michele Cinquegrano

8. HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE

a. Jodi Timpani reported updates on recent RIDE visits 9/23 Charter School check-in & 9/26 Special Education Office. Both visits went well in presenting information to two departments. A presentation to Nowell Board of Directors is scheduled for November.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Sec. 42-46-5(a)(2) - sessions pertaining to litigation; reasonably anticipated litigation involving former employees.

i. Motion to conclude Executive Session and reconvene Open Session

ii. Vote to seal minutes/votes taken during Executive Session if disclosure of such minutes/votes in Open Session would jeopardize any strategy, negotiation or investigation undertaken pursuant to discussions conducted under §42-46-5(a)

On a motion duly made by Stephanie Gonzalez and seconded by Deidre Denning Norton, it was

VOTED: That the Nowell Leadership Board of Directors enter into Executive Session.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in

the negative and 1 abstained as follows:

YEAS: Michele Cinquegrano, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, William Walter, and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: Beata Nelken

10. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion duly made by Deirdre Denning Norton and seconded by Toby Simon, it was

VOTED: That the Nowell Leadership Board of Directors vote to seal the minutes of the Executive Session.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michele Cinquegrano, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Beata Nelken, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, William Walter, and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Bill Walter with no objections.

Co-Chair Perry adjourned the meeting at 7:11 PM